

### **REMARKS**

#### **Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Lin* (U.S. Patent No. 6,839,860). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1, 8, 14, 18, 19, and 22 have been amended to add limitations making it clear that the selectable delay is not one fixed delay but a plurality of selectable delays. Support for this change can be found in the specification at paragraphs 0027 and 0028 as well as other places. Therefore, no new matter has been entered by this amendment.

*Lin* discloses a capture clock generator that uses master and slave delay lock loops (112 and 114 of Figure 2). The slave DLL 114 generates a clock signal CLK90 that is 90 degrees out of phase with the input clock CLKIN (see *Lin* at column 3, lines 4 – 7). The output of the slave DLL 114 is input to the multiplexer for selection between CLKIN and CLK90.

Applicant's invention as claimed in the present claims is to a fast data access circuit that can generate a delayed clock signal in which the delay of the clock is selected from a plurality of available delays. The slave DLL 114 of *Lin* provides only for a fixed delay of 90 degrees. While the master DLL 112 of *Lin* provides a delay line 160 that can generate different delays (see col. 3, lines 50 – 55), the master DLL 112 is not coupled to the input of the mux 116 as is claimed in the present claims. *Lin* selects only between CLKIN1 and the input clock signal delayed by 90 degrees (CLK90) to provide the selected clock to the input of the master DLL 112. Therefore, *Lin* neither teaches nor suggests Applicant's invention as claimed in the amended claims.

Claim 11 of the present invention already claims the feature that a plurality of delays are selectable. The clock delay circuit element states that "the time delay is smaller for higher input clock signal frequencies". This limitation is neither taught nor suggested by *Lin*.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any further fees deemed necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501373.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2211.

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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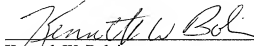
Title: FAST DATA ACCESS MODE IN A MEMORY DEVICE

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5/4/06



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